

PUBLIC NOTICE
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (LDEQ)
AND
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT (CEMVN)
SOUTHERN AGGREGATES, LLC
PUBLIC HEARING AND REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON
A WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION AND DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY (DA) PERMIT
APPLICATION

The LDEQ, Office of Environmental Services, and CEMVN will conduct a public hearing to receive comments on a water quality certification and DA permit application prepared for Southern Aggregates, LLC, P.O. Box 427, Watson, LA 70786 for the Easterly Lease Plant #10 Project. **The facility is located at 37662 LA Hwy 16, Watson, Livingston Parish.**

The hearing will be held on **Thursday, March 19, 2015, beginning at 6:00 p.m., at the Live Oak High School Cafeteria, 36079 LA Hwy 16, Denham Springs, LA 70706.** During the hearing, all interested persons will have an opportunity to present oral statements, views, recommendations, opinions and information on the proposed permit. Additionally, written statements and other documents such as charts, data, and tabulations may be filed with the hearing officer at the hearing.

Southern Aggregates, LLC, proposes to clear, excavate and fill material to extract aggregate materials (sand and gravel) for commercial sale. The project includes excavation of three borrow areas, with pertinent desanding plants, a material processing plant, an office, truck scales and ingress/egress access. Approximately 41,835 cubic yards of earthen material will be excavated and/or deposited and 934.25 cubic yards of aggregate, and 63.43 cubic yards of concrete culvert will be deposited during construction. Jurisdictional wetlands not impacted by the proposed mining operation will utilize a 4-foot earthen berm for protection against indirect impact and runoff. Upon completion of the mining operation, three permanent ponds will be left on-site. All other areas will be reclaimed to pre-mining elevations. The applicant proposes to compensate for unavoidable wetland impacts that would result from this proposal by purchasing the appropriate credits from a Corps approved mitigation bank.

The public hearing will be conducted in accordance with 33 CFR Part 327; and with La. R.S. 30:2017, which addresses the authority of the hearing officer and provides for the order in which speakers will be allowed to speak. A hearing officer will preside over the public hearing. This will be a formal hearing for the purpose of gathering facts and information. It will not include a "question and answer" component. In accordance with La. R.S. 30:2016, the hearing will be transcribed and become a part of the official public record.

Comments and requests for notification of the final decision on the Water Quality Certification can be submitted via personal delivery, U.S. mail, email, or fax. **Comments must be received by 4:30 pm CST, Monday, April 21, 2015.** Delivery may be made to the drop-box at 602 N. 5th St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802. U.S. Mail may be sent to LDEQ, Public Participation Group, P.O. Box 4313, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4313. Emails may be submitted to DEQ.PUBLICNOTICES@LA.GO and faxes sent to (225) 219-3309.

Comments on the DA permit application can be submitted via personal delivery, U.S. mail, email or faxed as below. Comments will be accepted through 2400 hours on **Monday, March 30, 2015.**

USACE, CEMVN
Ms. Doris Terrell
Regulatory Branch
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Fax: 504 862-2574

Email: Doris.Terrell@usace.army.mil

Please see additional LDEQ instructions for comment submission, hand delivery and information regarding electronic submission at <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/Default.aspx?tabid=2256> or call (225) 219-3276. Emails should follow the statewide email policies. For more information regarding statewide email policies, go to <http://doa.louisiana.gov/ocs/email/policies.htm>.

A written response to all public comments will be prepared at the time of the final permit decisions. LDEQ will send notification of the final permit decision to the applicant and to each person who has submitted written comments or a written request for notification of the final decision. Final individual permit decisions are posted on the CEMVN website at: <http://geo.usace.army.mil/egis/f?p=340:2:0::NO:RP>

The water quality certification and DA permit application are available for review at the LDEQ, Public Records Center, Room 127, 602 North 5th Street, Baton Rouge, LA. Viewing hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (except holidays). **The available information can also be accessed electronically on the Electronic Document Management System (EDMS) on the DEQ public website at www.deq.louisiana.gov.**

Additional copies may be reviewed at the Livingston Parish Library - Watson Branch, 36581 Outback Road, Denham Springs, LA 70706.

Individuals with a disability, who need an accommodation in order to participate in the public hearing, should contact Heather Desporte at the above address or by phone at (225) 219-3279.

Inquiries or requests for additional information regarding this permit action should be directed to Elizabeth Johnson, LDEQ, Water Permits Division, P.O. Box 4313, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4313, phone (225) 219-3225, or Doris Terrell, USACE-MVN, Regulatory Branch, P.O. Box 60267, New Orleans, LA 70160-0267, (504) 862-1588.

Persons wishing to be included on the LDEQ permit public notice mailing list or for other public participation related questions should contact the Public Participation Group in writing at LDEQ, P.O. Box 4313, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4313, by email at DEQ.PUBLICNOTICES@LA.GOV or contact the LDEQ Customer Service Center at (225) 219-LDEQ (219-5337).

Permit public notices including electronic access to the Water Quality Certification and DA permit application can be viewed at the LDEQ permits public notice webpage at www.deq.louisiana.gov/apps/pubNotice/default.asp and general information related to the public participation in permitting activities can be viewed at www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/2198/Default.aspx.

Alternatively, individuals may elect to receive the permit public notices via email by subscribing to the LDEQ permits public notice List Server at http://louisiana.gov/Services/Email_Notifications_DEQ_PN/.

All correspondence should specify AI Number 192689, Permit Number MVN-2014-01463-CU, and Activity Number CER20140001.